

**AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

**Listing of Claims:**

Claims 1-11 (Cancelled)

Claim 12. (New) A pharmaceutical composition for preventing or treating sepsis or septic shock, which composition comprises a peptide floating therein, which method comprises the steps of which binds to a lipopolysaccharide (LPS) or lipoteichoic acid (LTA) wherein the peptide comprises the amino acid sequence of apolipoprotein CI (apoCI) or a part thereof that comprises at least the amino acids of the C-terminal helix of apoCI as well as a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

Claim 13. (New) The composition according to claim 12, wherein the peptide comprises the amino acid sequence of human apoCI or a part thereof that comprises at least the amino acids of the C-terminal helix of human apoCI.

Claim 14. (New) The composition according to claim 13, wherein the peptide is human apoCI or a fragment thereof that comprises at least the amino acids MREWFSETFQKVKEKLLK.

Claim 15. (New) The composition according to claim 14, wherein the peptide is human apoCI having the amino acid sequence TPDVSSALDKLKEFGNTLEDKARELIS RIKQSELSAKMREWFSETFQKVKEKLLKIDS.

Claim 16. (New) A method for treating or preventively treating a mammal, which suffers from or is at increased risk of developing sepsis, wherein to the mammal an active amount is administered of a peptide as defined in claim 12.

Claim 17. (New) The method according to claim 16, wherein the mammal is a human.

Claim 18. (New) The method according to claim 16, wherein the mammal is at increased risk of developing sepsis as a result of a surgical intervention or a weakened immune system.

Claim 19. (New) A method for determining the severity of a septic condition and making a prognosis for the further course of the sepsis or septic shock in a mammal, or for monitoring a treatment of sepsis or septic shock in a mammal, which suffers from sepsis or septic shock, wherein the apoCI content is determined in a blood sample of the mammal.

Claim 20. (New) The method according to claim 19, wherein the mammal is a human.

Claim 21. (New) A method of manufacturing a pharmaceutical composition, comprising using a peptide according to claim 12.

Claim 22. (New) The method according to claim 21, wherein the peptide binds to lipoteichoic acids and wherein the composition is for preventing or treating a sepsis or septic shock in mammals.

Claim 23. (New) The method according to claim 22, wherein the shock is caused by Gram-negative bacteria.

Claim 24. (New) The method according to claim 23, wherein the mammal is a human, horse, cow, dog or cat.

Claim 25. (New) The method according to claim 22, wherein the shock is caused by Gram-positive bacteria.

Claim 26. (New) The method according to claim 25, wherein the mammal is a human, horse, cow, dog or cat.